

February 10, 2004

USSRAAF UST 1  
2200 Airport Boulevard  
Santa Rosa, California 95403  
Case No. 1TSO855

**Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum hydrocarbon discharge.**  
Comment Period ends **March 12, 2004.**

**Problem Description:** The former Santa Rosa Army Airfield Facility was used to train fighter groups and squadrons from 1942 to 1946. A 25,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) was located northeast of the runways and east of the building currently occupied by the California Department of Forestry. The UST was used to store aviation gasoline. In 1946, the Army abandoned the UST by removing the liquid fuel and filling the UST with water.

**Interim Actions Completed:** In 1995, the UST and associated piping were excavated and removed. Visibly contaminated soil was over-excavated to the groundwater interface located at approximately 19 feet below the ground surface. Three confirmation soil samples were collected from the excavation pit walls, just above the soil/groundwater interface. In pipe trenches, one soil sample was collected at approximately every 20 feet, at piping joints, and at locations where leakage was suspected. The soil samples did not indicate the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons. Groundwater in the excavation pit was extracted by a vacuum truck and sampled for analysis. The pitwater sample indicated the presence of benzene at 8.2 parts per billion (ppb), ethylbenzene at 9.9 ppb, and total xylenes at 34 ppb. The pitwater sample did not indicate the presence of total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline.

In 1996, an investigation was conducted to determine the impact to soil and groundwater. Five soil and groundwater samples were collected around the former UST area from depths of 18 to 28 feet below the ground surface. Diesel was the only petroleum hydrocarbon detected in two of the five soil samples. The soil sample collected nearest to the tank contained total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel at 79 parts per million (ppm) and another sample contained 16 ppm. The groundwater samples did not indicate the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons with the exception of diesel, which was found in samples ranging from 20 ppb to 210 ppb. However, the quality assurance sample labeled as the "equipment blank" also contained 170 ppb TPH as diesel. Therefore, diesel was flagged as a laboratory contaminant by the analytical laboratory.

**Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) Status:** MTBE analysis was not required since it was not used in aviation fuels in the 1940's.

**Proposed Action:** No further action related to this petroleum hydrocarbon discharge is proposed.

Unless comments are received with significant new information, Regional Water Board staff plans to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Bonnie Rolandelli at (707) 576-2667 or [rolab@rbl.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:rolab@rbl.swrcb.ca.gov) with any questions or comments.